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19 February 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BROSS

SUBJECT: History of Progress, or Lack Thereof, in Development
of Intelligence Community Information Processing System

1. The Terms of Reference for a study of intelligence community information processing problems were issued on 11 July 1961. This resulted in the report of the CODIB Staff for the Community Information Processing Study (SCIPS), which was published on 16 March 1964. The average age of the information in the SCIPS report is January 1963.

2. As a result of the SCIPS report, nine Task Teams were formed under CODIB to investigate problem areas which had been identified. The last of these Task Team reports has just recently been considered by CODIB.

3. The SCIPS report was made available to the White House and the PFIAB. As a result of this report and the work done by a panel under Dr. Baker of PFIAB, the PFIAB issued a memorandum on 15 June 1965 directing the conduct of the COINS experiment. COINS was formally established by USIB on 24 September 1965.

4. On 21 December 1966 a secure data link was established between NSA and DIA. The first test message was sent on 13 February 1967. A successful interrogation cycle was established on 20 April 1967. The past year has been spent in nurturing, expanding and debugging that first feeble effort.

5. The NSA-DIA COINS link is now operational part time. CIA and NPIC will join the circuit after 15 April. State and NIC should complete the initial list of subscribers in July 1968.

6. Evaluation of the system will begin in July 1968. It will be completed in July 1969. A determination will be made at that time as to the future of COINS. Thus an eight-year cycle will be complete

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and, if it is decided to proceed with COINS, a ten-year cycle will be completed in July 1971 when COINS II becomes fully operational.



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